

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Patrice ANDRE; Vincent LOTTEAU; Glaucia  
PARANHOS-BACCALA; Florence KOMURIAN-  
PRADELApplication No.: U.S. National Stage of  
PCT/FR00/02202

Filed: January 22, 2002

Docket No.: 111737

For: METHOD FOR IN VITRO CULTURE OF VIRUSES OF THE TOGAVIRIDAE AND  
FLAVIVIRIDAE FAMILIES AND USESPRELIMINARY AMENDMENTDirector of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please add the Abstract as attached hereto.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 1-4, 6, 8, 10, 13, 14, 17, 19, 20 and 24 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for culturing, propagating and replicating, *in vitro*, viruses belonging to the *Togaviridae* or *Flaviviridae* families, according to which there is at least one LVP fraction obtained from serum or from plasma of a patient infected with at least one virus belonging to the *Togaviridae* or *Flaviviridae* families, and said fraction is brought into contact with permissible cells for a predetermined period of time in a suitable culture medium containing an activating agent chosen from unsaturated fatty acid, or a derivative of an